

Dr. Charles Herczeg  
Vienna III. Krummgasse 3/19  
Austria

Vienna, Austria

To the  
6889 Berlin Documents Center  
APO 742  
Rt. Hon. Commander in Chief

Dear Sir:

I am referring to you in connection with an information of the 6889 Berlin Documents Center. This unit informed the Austrian Authorities, who asked for it because of my citizenship-application, that I, Charles Herczeg, born on February 2, 1924 in Fünfkirchen, appear in a list of the SS-Officers of the Allgemeine SS with a rank of SS-Untersturmführer, promoted on June 21, 1944, SS-No. 490.290.

To this information I have to observe that I was never a member of the Allgemeine SS, i.e. the branch of the NSDAP. I was transferred because of my Austrian origin, like all other not-German citizens to the Waffen-SS in April 1942. As you may see from my file I have a clean combat-record from the Russian front and I have not seen an American soldier until May 8, 1945. I wish to stress also the point that I hadn't had the possibility to enter either the NSDAP or the Allgemeine SS because I wasn't German citizen. Only German citizens could enter this party and their branches. Quite apart of it I never intended to do so. After being in the Army and on the front it was forbidden by law to enter either NSDAP or Allgemeine SS. This law expired only after the attempt on Hitler on July 20, 1944. I was promoted to the rank of an "SS-Untersturmführer der Reserve in der Waffen-SS" on June 21, 1944 after having absolved the tank-officer-school of the Wehrmacht in Fallingb. Ostel.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact, that there are already several cases in Vienna, in which the unit in Berlin mentioned above gave informations stating that different persons were members of the Allgemeine SS with officer-rank. These persons could prove entirely that they were officers of the Waffen-SS but not of the Allgemeine SS. Therefore it seems that some mistake happens either at translating the files, or the files of the SS-Officers of the Waffen-SS are mingled together with the officers of the Allgemeine SS.

Please take in consideration that because of the Austrian Law against the Nazi-Party I would have to endure the severest punishment as member of the Allgemeine SS, whereas officers of the Waffen-SS are classified as officers of the Army with all civil rights.

The file in Berlin has to show for example that on June 21, 1944 I was promoted to an "SS-Untersturmführer der Reserve", which means that I was not an active officer. This expression "der Reserve" existed only in military formations, not in Party-formations of the Allgemeine SS.

I would be therefore utmostly grateful if you would send to the Austrian Authorities handling my case, i.e. Magistratsabteilung 62, Dr. Fuchs, Wien I. Rathausstrasse 9, Austria a complete copy of my file in Berlin, since from it they would have the prove that I was in the Waffen-SS and not in the Allgemeine SS. Please state therefore every word being in my file, e.g. "d. Res." or "der Reserve", since these are very important.

I have nothing common with the Nazi-ideology and as stated above I couldn't be a member of the Allgemeine SS. As so-called ethnic Germans we had to come to the Waffen-SS. I wish to stress also the point that I was not fighting for Hitler but against Russia, which invaded my home-country and invented a Communistic Regime opposed by America and everybody.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2003 2005

Please examine wholly my file. Having been wounded in hospital for two years and having proved with an assiduous work during the last years my intention to promote democracy I do not believe that I deserve a punishment for something which I didn't do. I would like to mention also that my father is working for the American Government on an utterly important and dangerous post so that I probably won't see him anymore. A punishment for an information which confounds Waffen-SS with Allgemeine SS would be therefore paradox.

The proofs I have concerning my belonging to the Waffen-SS and that I didn't belong to the Allgemeine SS will be submitted at request to the American Legation in Vienna or to other Military Authorities.

If possible I would like to ask you to send me a short notice about the investigations you arrange. It is also of the utmost importance to me that the Magistratsabteilung 62 (i.e. a section of the Mayor's Office) gets quickly a new information from you, since my citizenship application cannot be handled before this takes place; without citizenship I am practically without rights.

In the hope that I do not cause you too much work and that I will be able to thank you one day personally, I remain, dear Sir,

yours faithfully

*F. Charles J. J. J.*

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